



VERY BRIEF EARLY SUMMER COMMENTS!!!

*By Ron Cross
Board of Commission Chairman*

First and foremost, I do not have much to say this month (unusual huh?), but a few reminders: school is out and everyone is scattering, be careful; the water feature is "on" at the Evans Library; the County has almost finished the annual budget, which is balanced with no tax increase; Lady Antebellum is coming to Columbia County in the fall; we must start work on the T-SPLOST program

soon to secure transportation funding for the region; the new Board of Health Building, the new Animal Services Building, and the addition to Building C will open early summer; the new Evans Towne Center Park will open late summer, with hopefully big name entertainment coming soon; and, did I mention that Lady Antebellum is scheduled for fall? Hope you remembered to honor those who paid the ultimate price in protecting our freedoms on Memorial Day. Hope you remember to celebrate big on Independence Day. Hope the summer is long for students and teachers and short for parents. Columbia County continues to be blessed!

Summer Cooling Centers Open June 1 thru Sept 30

The Cooling Centers listed below are available for residents who do not have air conditioning and need a cool place to go during the hottest part of the day. Locations and hours are posted below. Also, if anyone needs transportation, they can call (706) 556-0807

Bessie Thomas Community Ctr., 5913 Euchee Creek Dr.
7 am – 5 pm (Mon – Fri)

Patriot's Park, 5445 Columbia Rd.
9am – 9pm (Mon - Thurs), 8am – 5pm (Friday)
9am – 4 pm (Saturday), 1pm – 6pm (Sunday)

Wesley United Methodist Church
825 N. Belair Rd., Evans
9am – 5pm, (Mon – Thurs)

Eubank Blanchard Community Center
6868 Cobbham Rd., Appling
9am – 6pm (Mon – Fri)

Laurel & Hardy Museum, 250 N. Louisville St., Harlem
10am – 4pm (Tues - Sat)

Harlem Senior Center, 405 W. Church St., Harlem
9am – 1pm (Mon - Fri)

Liberty Park Community Center, Newmantown Rd.
Grovetown
8am - 5pm (Mon - Fri)

2nd SATURDAY concerts







June 11-Sassy Brass

July 9-The Stephen Lee Band

August 13-The Jeremy Graham Band

September 10- The Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve
Free Concert to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of 9/11

October 8- The Swingin' Medallions

Columbia County Amphitheater

\$5 Admission
(September's concert is FREE)
No coolers or pets allowed

706-312-7192
www.columbiacountyga.gov






2006-10 SPLOST PROJECTS
Completed Projects

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<input type="checkbox"/> Appling Courthouse improvements <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Operations Ctr <input type="checkbox"/> Reed Creek Park Center <input type="checkbox"/> Performing Arts Ctr (PAC) upgrade <input type="checkbox"/> Resurfacing of Cox and Hereford Farm Roads <input type="checkbox"/> Washington Road widening from Ronald Reagan Drive to Fieldstone Way <input type="checkbox"/> William Few Pkwy turn lane extension at Washington Rd	<input type="checkbox"/> Evans Gov't Center parking <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Elections <input type="checkbox"/> Land for new fire stations <input type="checkbox"/> Fire apparatus replacement <input type="checkbox"/> Blanchard Woods Park <input type="checkbox"/> Disc Golf Club House <input type="checkbox"/> Upgrade existing parks <input type="checkbox"/> Wrightsboro Rd and Eubanks Dr water lines <input type="checkbox"/> Computer software/hardware for public safety <input type="checkbox"/> North Belair connector <input type="checkbox"/> Hardy McManus/Washington Rds intersection <input type="checkbox"/> Paved Dodge Ln & Postell <input type="checkbox"/> Baston Rd median work, paved Fire station parking lot and Martinez Blvd. <input type="checkbox"/> Resurface Blackstone Camp Rd	<input type="checkbox"/> Paved Grant, Summit Ridge, Hamilton, Powell Church, Morris Calloway, and Burks Mountain Rds <input type="checkbox"/> Widened Washington Rd at Goodwill <input type="checkbox"/> Resurfaced 13 roads <input type="checkbox"/> Constructed General Wood Pkwy w/intersection upgrade at Washington Rd. <input type="checkbox"/> Renovated Building A <input type="checkbox"/> Renovated Savannah Rapids Pavilion <input type="checkbox"/> Evans Gov't Center masterplan <input type="checkbox"/> Fire stations & renovations <input type="checkbox"/> Appling sewer line <input type="checkbox"/> Ridge Road water line <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer for Animal Services <input type="checkbox"/> Wildwood master plan <input type="checkbox"/> Greenspace master plan <input type="checkbox"/> Sheriff's communication system <input type="checkbox"/> Harlem Park tennis repairs	<input type="checkbox"/> Widening of Mullikin at Fury's Ferry and Evans-to-Locks at Blue Ridge <input type="checkbox"/> Park land in Gateway <input type="checkbox"/> Ronald Reagan Rd crosswalk repair <input type="checkbox"/> Island removal at Davis and Washington Roads <input type="checkbox"/> Sidewalk on S Old Belair Rd <input type="checkbox"/> PAC lobby upgrade <input type="checkbox"/> Reed Creek boardwalk extension <input type="checkbox"/> Eubank Blanchard pavilion <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Gardens playground extension <input type="checkbox"/> Blanchard Woods Park pavilion <input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Rapids AV up-fit <input type="checkbox"/> Wildwood Park Pavilions	<input type="checkbox"/> Reed Creek pedestrian bridge <input type="checkbox"/> Paving of Bill Dorn, Cemetery, Rolland, Harp, White, Jamison, and Rance Perry Roads <input type="checkbox"/> Evans Auditorium AV up-fit <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Gardens pavilions and playground <input type="checkbox"/> Reed Creek pedestrian bridge <input type="checkbox"/> Added parking at Evans Gov't Center <input type="checkbox"/> Canal Headgates multi-use expansion <input type="checkbox"/> Augusta Tech access road <input type="checkbox"/> Paved Knob Hill Farm, Suan, Adelia, Linder McCurdy and Dent Roads <input type="checkbox"/> Flowing Wells Rd intersection improvements

Status of Incomplete 2006-10 SPLOST Projects

Under Design	Under Bid	Under Construction
<input type="checkbox"/> Widening of Washington Road <input type="checkbox"/> Fury's Ferry/Hardy McManus intersection improvements <input type="checkbox"/> Columbia Road and Oakley Pirkle Road sidewalks <input type="checkbox"/> Evans-to-Locks Rd multi-use trail – Phase 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Lewiston Rd intersection improvements <input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Rapids Park restroom facility <input type="checkbox"/> Recycle Center II at Riverside Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Paving of Ronald Reagan Drive Ext. <input type="checkbox"/> County Coroner's office addition <input type="checkbox"/> Event Center at Gateway	<input type="checkbox"/> Evans Towne Center Park – opening fall 2011 <input type="checkbox"/> Gateway Phase 1-A and 1-B <input type="checkbox"/> Paving of Nathan Jones, Sandy Run, Stanford, Haywood and Smith Crawford Roads <input type="checkbox"/> Building F <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership Drive at the Gateway <input type="checkbox"/> William Few Pkwy S – widening & intersection improvements

2006 GO BOND PROJECTS UPDATE
Completed Projects

2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<input type="checkbox"/> GR Tucker water line <input type="checkbox"/> Waterlines/boost pump station <input type="checkbox"/> Appling masterplan <input type="checkbox"/> Columbia Rd and temp. Leah Fire Stations <input type="checkbox"/> Renovations at Winfield & Burks Mtn fire stations <input type="checkbox"/> HazMat response items <input type="checkbox"/> Ladder truck, battalion chief vehicle, and 4 Class A fire engines <input type="checkbox"/> Blanchard Woods Park land acq. <input type="checkbox"/> Wildwood Park Disc Golf driveway	<input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater masterplan <input type="checkbox"/> Mullins Pond detention facility <input type="checkbox"/> Dozier Road water line <input type="checkbox"/> Purchased Evans Towne Center Park <input type="checkbox"/> Sheriff's weapons training facility <input type="checkbox"/> La Vista Drive drainage pipe <input type="checkbox"/> Court software, data conversion & training	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire training facility <input type="checkbox"/> Evans High sidewalk <input type="checkbox"/> Halifax Subdivision stream restoration	<input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater maintenance facility on Chamblin Road <input type="checkbox"/> William Few Parkway drainage <input type="checkbox"/> Eucree Creek sewer Phase III & V <input type="checkbox"/> Wildwood Park Gatehouse/entryways <input type="checkbox"/> William Few Parkway Extension, South	<input type="checkbox"/> Bowen's Pond restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Widen Industrial Park to 5 lanes at Lowe's <input type="checkbox"/> Paved Hinton Wilson Rd <input type="checkbox"/> Completed Reynolds Farm Rd creek crossing

Status of Incomplete 2006 GO Bond Projects

Under Design	Under Bid	Under Construction
<input type="checkbox"/> Petersburg Station and Wynngate stream restorations <input type="checkbox"/> Old Louisville water line and water storage tank <input type="checkbox"/> Evans Elementary School sidewalk <input type="checkbox"/> Owens, Cox & Gibbs widen loop and Hereford Farm Road widening <input type="checkbox"/> William Few Extension, North <input type="checkbox"/> Ridge Crossing Phase IIA		<input type="checkbox"/> Pave Crawford Place <input type="checkbox"/> School transportation construction per BOE <input type="checkbox"/> Betty's Branch stream restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Ridge Crossing Phase IIA <input type="checkbox"/> Blanchard Woods Park Soccer locker rooms

2011-2016 SPLOST PROJECTS FUNDED EARLY BY A BOND

Under Bid	Under Construction	Completed
<input type="checkbox"/> Petersburg retention <input type="checkbox"/> Sleepy Hollow Court <input type="checkbox"/> Hebbard project	<input type="checkbox"/> Building C Expansion – opening July 2011 <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Services Facility – opening July 2011 <input type="checkbox"/> Health Department Facility – opening July 2011 <input type="checkbox"/> Fleet Maintenance Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate Drive water <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Dorn water and tank	<input type="checkbox"/> State Patrol Post <input type="checkbox"/> Water lines on Freeman Harris, Swint, and Winfield/Mistletoe Roads <input type="checkbox"/> 3 new fire pumps <input type="checkbox"/> Eucree Creek and Lean Fire Stations <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Creek Fire Station addition <input type="checkbox"/> Water line on White Oak to Wrightsboro <input type="checkbox"/> Cottonwood water <input type="checkbox"/> Betty's Branch culvert <input type="checkbox"/> Detention Center new dormitory

LOCATE FLAGS

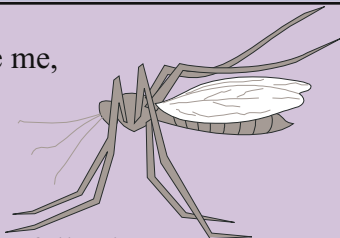
Who puts out those little colored flags and what do they mean? They seem to pop up like mushrooms along the roads or near homes and businesses.

The flags mark existing buried utilities and are placed in the ground prior to excavation to minimize the possibility of damage. The Georgia 811 Call Before You Dig requirement states that utility owners must locate (i.e., mark with small flags) their facilities prior to any construction. The flags seen throughout Columbia County in the right-of-way are mandated by this process and should be left alone until construction in that area has been completed. There are numerous construction projects taking place in the County right now, but the biggest one is the County's broadband project which will bury more than 200 miles of fiber optic cable and should be completed by early 2012. If you have any questions regarding locate flags or general construction timelines, please call 311.

Color Codes for Temporary Underground Utility Marking

RED	Electric power lines, cables, conduit, and lighting cables
YELLOW	Gas, oil, steam, petroleum, or gaseous material
ORANGE	Communication, alarm or signal lines, cables, or conduit
BLUE	Potable water
GREEN	Sewers and drain lines
WHITE	Proposed excavation limits or route
PINK	Temporary survey markings, unknown/unidentified facilities
PURPLE	Reclaimed water, irrigation, and slurry lines

If you don't want to see me,
then make sure you
have no standing
water in your yard!



Check your home for the following common mosquito breeding problem areas: swimming pools, bird baths, gutters and downspouts, decorative ponds, containers, tarps, leaky spigots, low spots in yard, tires, tree holes, and screens and remove them as soon as possible.

Together, we can reduce the mosquito population in Columbia County! Call 3-1-1 or visit www.columbiacountyga.gov for more info!

SHERIFF'S CORNER

The Columbia County Sheriff's Office provides *Project Lifesaver* to assist in locating missing persons that have wandered off due to suffering from dementia-type disorders and autism. Those at risk of wandering, bolting, and/or running wear a one-ounce transmitter on the wrist or ankle that emits a constant pulsating radio tracking signal 24/7. When caregivers discover their loved one missing, they call the Sheriff's Office and trained *Project Lifesaver* personnel respond with a special tracking unit that has proven useful in locating missing persons. So far, the *Project Lifesaver* team has been 100% successful in returning loved ones to their families and caregivers. The funding of *Project Lifesaver* is made possible through private and corporate donations and grants. For more information, go to columbiacountyso.org. Under "Division," please choose "Community Services" and then "Project Lifesaver."

THE COMPASS ROSE



After the dedication of the latest phase of construction to Savannah Rapids Park last fall, Alan Marshall asked the County if he could design, build, and donate a compass rose as a thank you for the wonderful memories he has of growing up and playing in this beautiful area of the County. He felt a compass embedded in the floor of the bridge plaza would serve as both a decoration and an educational tool for visitors at this meeting spot in the park. He spent the winter pouring, coloring and decorating this four feet diameter slab of concrete. After losing his first attempt to freezing temperatures, he continued to make three more until he was satisfied with his finished product. On May 5th, Mr. Marshall installed his compass rose and hopes his gift to the County will help beautify the plaza and enhance the visitor's experience in the park.

Community Calendar & Announcements

JUNE

All Health Department Clinics will be closed from June 24th thru July 8th and the new Health Department facility will open on William Few Parkway on July 11th.

- 3 The Columbia County Choral Society will perform *Incarnatio Mysteria* at 7:30 PM at Wesley United Methodist Church. This preview concert, which is in anticipation of the June 19th World Premiere at Lincoln Center in New York City, will also feature the Combined Choirs of Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School and singers from around the CSRA. To purchase tickets, call 762-233-7793 or go to www.ccchoralsociety.org

- 4 *Fly, Butterfly* for ages 5+ from 10-11 AM at Reed Creek Park. Learn about the amazing life cycle of the butterfly. Pre-registration required by calling 706-210-4027. Non-members \$2.

- 6 *Potluck Book Club* at 6 PM in the Evans Library. *Rocco's Real Life Recipes* by Rocco DiSpirito will be featured.

- 8 *Nurturing Nature Walks* for 3-5 year olds (younger siblings are welcome!) at Reed Creek Park from 10-11 AM. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Non-members \$2.

- 11 *Pollution Solution* from 10-11 AM at Reed Creek Park. Hands-on experience and learning to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Pre-registration required by calling 706-210-4027. Non-members \$2.

2nd Saturday Concert featuring *Sassy Brass* at 7 PM in the Amphitheater. Admission is \$5 and no coolers or pets are allowed. Call 706-312-7192 for more information. *Sponsored by the University Health Care System and The Columbia County News Times.*

- 16 *Brown Bag Lunch Book Discussion* at 11:30 AM in the Evans Library. *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy will be discussed.

Harlem Library Book Discussion will begin at 4 PM. The group will review *Fall of the Giants* by Ken Follett.

- 18 *Nature Photography* for ages 12+ at Reed Creek Park. Pre-registration required by calling 706-210-4027. Non-members \$5.

- 19 Ribbon-cutting for the new Health Department and Animal Services facility on William Few Parkway (next to the Recycling Center and State Patrol) beginning at 11 AM.

- 20 *Monday Night Book Discussion* at the Evans Library beginning at 6:30 PM. This month, *Fall of the Giants* by Ken Follett will be discussed.

- 22 *All about Birds* at Reed Creek Park for ages 5+ from 10-11AM. Find out what makes a bird a bird. Pre-registration required by calling 706-210-4027. Non-members \$2.

- 23 *Nurturing Nature Walks* for 3-5 year olds (younger siblings are welcome!) at Reed Creek Park from 10-11 AM. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Non-members \$2.

- 27 *Non-Fiction Book Club* at 6:30 PM in the Evans Library. *My Secret: A Post Secret Book* by Frank Warren will be reviewed.

- 28 *Pond Exploration* at Reed Creek Park from 10-11 AM. Children will learn about critters in the Reed Creek pond. Be prepared to get wet. Children aged 5+ must be accompanied by an adult and pre-registration required by calling 706-210-4027. Non-members \$2.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

June Summer Reading activities for children of all ages include the following:

Evans Library events: Wednesdays in June at 2 PM

- 1st - International dance performance
- 8th - Fencing demonstration for ages 10-14
- 9th - Magician Chad Crews **at 7 PM**
- 15th- Internet safety with Sgt. Massey
- 22nd- Meet some therapy dogs and learn what they do
- 29th- Reptiles with Savannah River Ecology Lab

Euchee Creek events: Tuesdays in June at 6 PM

- 7th - Magician Chad Crews
- 14th- Fencing demonstration for ages 10-14
- 21st - International Dance **at 2 PM**
- 28th - Meet some therapy dogs and learn what they do

Harlem Library events: Wednesdays in June at 2:30 PM

- 1st - Meet some therapy dogs and learn what they do.
- 8th - Magician Chad Crews
- 15th- Fencing demonstration for ages 10-14
- 22nd- Jazz4kidz with Garden City Jazz
- 29th - International dance performance

For more information about these children's programs, please call 706-447-7657